

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

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P R 051531Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6937
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, GY, NS, FG, FR
SUBJECT: PROPOSAL FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION IN SCIENTIFIC STUDIES
ON SHRIMP

REF: A. STATE 129628, B. GEORGETOWN 1685

1. AS REPORTED IN REF. B EMBASSY TRANSMITTED THE BULLIS REPORT TO MINAGRICULTURE KENNARD ON MAY 26. ON JUNE 2 THE FOLLOWING REPLY WAS RECEIVED FROM KENNARD:
QUOTE: FURTHER TO YOUR LETTER OF 26TH MAY AND TO OUR DISCUSSION ON 30TH MAY IN CONNECTION WITH REGIONAL COOPERATION IN SHRIMP RESEARCH; I WOULD SUGGEST STRONGLY THAT IN ORDER TO AVOID DUPLICATION THE PROPOSED WECAF PROJECT SHOULD SUPERSEDE THAT ADVANCED BY MR. BULLIS.

I DISCUSSED AT CABINET AND IT WAS AGREED THAT THE PROPOSED WECAF MEETING COULD TAKE PLACE IN GUYANA. PERHAPS U.S.
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INITIATIVE WOULD MAKE THIS POSSIBLE.

I AGREE THAT A REGIONAL APPROACH TO SHRIMP RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION IS URGENT AND DESIRABLE AND WOULD WELCOME A JOINT EFFORT BY THE COUNTRIES LISTED IN THE WECAF PROPOSAL. UNQUOTE.

2. AMBASSADOR SPOKE WITH KENNARD ON JUNE 3, SUGGESTING

TO HIM THAT THE MEETING PROPOSED IN THE BULLIS REPORT
WOULD SEEM TO BE A USEFUL PRELUDE TO THE WECAF MEETING.
FURTHERMORE, HE OPINED THAT PROPOSAL FOR THE WECAF
MEETING SEEMED SOMEWHAT TENTATIVE AND ITS DATES COULD
CONCEIVABLY SLIP. WAS THERE NOT THEREFORE STILL A NEED
FOR THE SMALLER MEETING PROPOSED BY BULLIS?

3. KENNARD SAID THAT IN LIGHT OF THOSE CONSIDERATIONS
GOG WOULD PROBABLY BE WILLING TO RECONSIDER ITS POSITION
AS SET FORTH IN HIS LETTER. HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF THE
GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO HOLD A REFERENDUM IN JULY ON
THE INTRODUCTION OF A NEW CONSTITUTION HE FELT THAT A
MEETING IN GEORGETOWN SHOULD BE DEFERRED UNTIL SOMETIME IN
AUGUST. AMBASSADOR SAID THAT HE WOULD TRANSMIT KENNARD'S
THOUGHTS BACK TO WASHINGTON.

4. COMMENT: IT IS QUITE OBVIOUS THAT GIVEN THE SOMEWHAT
UNSETTLED POLITICAL SITUATION PREVAILING IN GEORGETOWN IN
THE PERIOD BETWEEN NOW AND JULY, GOG WOULD FIND IT AWKWARD TO
HOST THE PROPOSED MEETING. IT DOES APPEAR THEREFORE
THAT THE OPTIONS ARE (1) TO CONSIDER POSTPONEMENT
UNTIL AUGUST WITH GEORGETOWN REMAINING AS THE VENUE FOR
THE MEETING, OR (2) ATTEMPTING TO HOLD IT ELSEWHERE IF
THE JULY TIMING IS CRITICAL.
BURKE

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